

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 INRE-00 AID-20 OPIC-12 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 IO-12 /131 W

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P 111320 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2334

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KAMPALA 1309

E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EAID US UG

SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER INQUIRIES RE AID

1. WHILE DIRECTOR WAS OUT OF OFFICE APRIL 10, USAID WAS VISITED BY REPORTERS FROM VOICE OF UGANDA SEEKING AN INTERVIEW ON SUBJECT QTE TERMINATION OF AID UNQTE. ONE REPORTER RETURNED ON AUGUST 11.

2. VOICE REPORTER BEGAN CONVERSATION BY GETTING OUT NOTE PAD AND SAYING THAT TERMINATION OF US AID WAS BEING DISCUSSED QTE ALL OVER TOWN UNQTE AND THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE DIRECTOR EXPLAIN WHY AID WAS LEAVING.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPLY WAS TO EFFECT THAT:

A) VOICE OF UGANDA INFORMATION WAS PREMATURE; WHAT WAS BEING WITNESSED WAS FACT THAT THREE AID PROJECTS INVOLVING 14 EMPLOYEES WERE TERMINATING AFTER 10 YEARS IN UGANDA; THAT 9 US EMPLOYEES HAD DEPARTED IN PAST FEW WEEKS AND OTHERS WERE PACKING TO LEAVE.

B) THAT US AID PRESENCE IN UGANDA WAS AT THE PLEASURE OF GOU AND EVEN SHOULD WE TERMINATE OUR ACTIVITIES IT WOULD BE A MATTER OF BUSINESS FOR OUR EMBASSY TO HANDLE WITH PROPER GOU  
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OFFICIALS, NOT THROUGH AN EXPOSE IN THE NEWSPAPERS.

4. COMMENT: THIS MAY DELAY PUBLICATION OF ANY STORY FOR THE MOMENT. REPORTER LEFT USAID OFFICE PARTLY SATISFIED BUT SAID, HOWEVER, THAT SHE STILL WISHED TO HAVE A DISCUSSION WITH THE EMBASSY.

5. AS ANTICIPATED, SAME REPORTER LATER PHONED CHARGE AND STATED: QTE I HAVE IT FROM RELIABLE SOURCES THAT US WILL TERMINATE ITS AID PROGRAM IN UGANDA AS OF JUNE 30 THIS YEAR. WOULD YOU CARE TO COMMENT? UNQTE. CHARGE SAID HE HAD NOTHING TO SAY ON THAT SUBJECT AND HE UNDERSTOOD USAID DIRECTOR HAD ALREADY HAD DISCUSSION WITH REPORTER. CHARGE SUGGESTED SHE GET IN TOUCH WITH PAO, FOR IF THERE EVER WERE ANY NEWS ON SUCH MATTERS IT WOULD COME THROUGH THE PAO. CHARGE ADDED THAT AS OF NOW HE KNEW THAT PAO HAD NOTHING TO OFFER ON THIS SUBJECT.

6. SAME REPORTER MADE APPOINTMENT WITH PAO FOR MORNING APRIL 12. PAO WILL OF COURSE NOT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT A TERMINATION OF AID TO UGANDA, WILL TAKE LINE SIMILAR TO THAT TAKEN BY USAID DIRECTOR, AND WILL STRESS ALSO DIFFICULTIES AID CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING IN OBTAINING BUDGET FOR WORLDWIDE OPERATIONS.

KEELEU

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**TAGS:** EAID, PFOR, UG, US, n/a  
**To:** AF  
NAIROBI  
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